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- Easter Faith Forum Series

The Steeple



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Role Reversals

Some of the most profound experiences involved in this vocation occur when I find myself upon the thresholds of life. And, while it seems that the majority of our time is spent in the middle of many things - school, work, retirement - it is when we find ourselves upon the thresholds of entering and exiting that the middle is given a uniquely critical perspective. At times what we experience in those moments ultimately ends up shaping much of what comes after for some of us. If we let them, birth and death can be some of life's greatest teachers and if the events of the past two weeks have taught me anything, it is that role reversals in the middle of life are some of the most grounding experiences of all.

On May 4th our friend Sally Canfield passed away. In the short time that was given to me to know her, I grew to love her smile – especially how she was always ready to give them but forever shy about it. Early afternoons, right after lunch, were the best times to visit her. Her son, Blake, was always busy fixing meals, washing sheets, folding towels, doing odd jobs around the house, ever attentive to his mom. Before I left on Sunday, we talked about how he felt that he was in the right place. He said, "She took care of me when I was young, I'm here for her now." Through one of the hardiest experiences of his life Blake experienced the comfort of knowing he was where he needed to be – completing a circle in his life.

Blake's experience of knowing that he was right where he was supposed to be touched me deeply. The way he tenderly cared for his mom added such depth to that knowing. Blake lived into the moment before him with everything that he had and, in a way, experienced some measure of peace in a situation that was totally out of his control. As I sat by Blake, Pam, and Sally that day I thought of you all and I wonder if you've had those moments of knowing you are right where you are supposed to be or even if where you are now is one of those places. If anything comes with role reversals it is perspective.

One of our prayers mentions the changes and chances of this life and how we are to gain perspective from those moments through God's eternal changelessness. That's grand. But I tell you, to see such prayer in action is quite breathtaking. Everything changed for my friend Blake this week – everything. And while prayers were said and last rites were given, it was in the way

my friend said "mom" where I heard a change in him who was now both child and parent. And in the giving over of her Spirit to God, Sally not only now rests in God's eternal changelessness but wondrously accompanies us all as a child now at rest.

Deep Peace, Fr. Nick+

Online & Mobile Giving Through Tithe.ly

Now there's a way to support of St. Luke's with secure online or mobile methods. In conjunction with The Network for Episcopal Stewardship, the Tithe.ly online giving application is now available to St. Luke's members. The instructions for using this convenience are provided below and also on the <u>St. Luke's website</u> (http://episcopalbartlesville.org)

Step-by-Step Instructions for Giving through Tithe.ly

1) Get started by going to Tithe.ly (yes, there's a dot between the "e" and the "l") and download the application. Go to: <u>https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app</u>

2) From the above link, you may donate directly from your home computer (vs. your phone/mobile device) by picking the Give Online option OR you may donate from your phone or other mobile device by selecting either the Apple or Android (Google Play) version.

3) Open the application and enter your name and email, and then create a personal password and PIN.

4) In the **Find a Church** window at the top, type in: St. Luke's Episcopal Church (if several St. Luke's Episcopal Churches will pop up, be sure to pick ours in Bartlesville)

5) Select the method of payment at the bottom: credit, debit, or bank account withdrawal.

6) Enter the amount of your gift and indicate whether you would like it to be Recurring and at what frequency.

7) Pick General Fund as the destination.

8) If you want to provide the full amount of your gift to the church, check Cover Fees box and the Tithe.ly service charge will not be deducted from your gift to the church. There service charge is 2.75% + 0.30 per credit/debit card transaction, which reflects a slight discount through association with The Network for Episcopal Stewardship.

9) The application will save your donation information for the next time you give. All you have to do is enter your PIN. Both the Give Online and mobile methods of Tithe.ly giving are secure. If you have questions, they will probably be answered by clicking: https://get.tithe.ly/faqs



Meals for Family Promise

St. Luke's will be providing evening meals for a Family Promise family staying at Anchor House from Sunday, May 16 through Saturday, May 22. Vestry members have been providing these meals on a quarterly basis since the start of the pandemic. Now, with pandemic restrictions easing, **any St. Luke's member is welcome to provide a meal**.

The family currently at Anchor House consists of a mother and five children. There are no special food needs in the family. If you would like to help out, please contact Roseanne at the church office (918-336-1212) or email <u>office@episcopalbartlesville.org</u>. Please let Roseanne know what date(s) you would prefer.





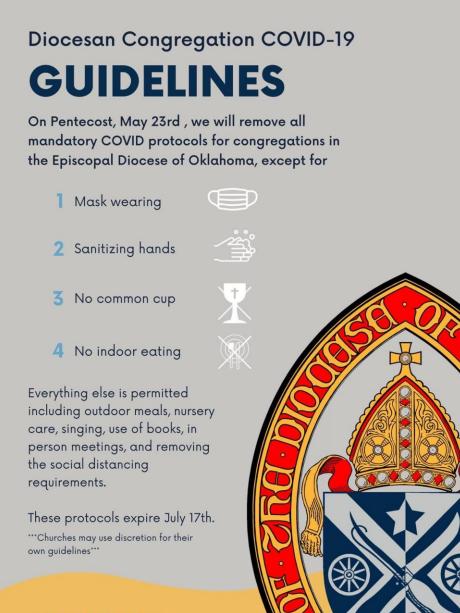
Emily Update: The May 1st yard sale at Roseanne's house, raised \$492.50 to be applied to the current balance of \$770, leaving \$277.50 owed.

The next hearing is 9 a.m. May 24, when the judge will decide on a motion to remove the ex-husband's attorney, due to a conflict of interest.



The 5/24 hearing will likely generate an attorney bill of \$275 making the balance \$552.50.

On April 19 Emily was awarded \$1,000 in attorney's fees, which when paid by her ex-husband will be applied to future legal fees. Emily thanks you for your donations/prayers!



EPIOK.ORG/COVID-19



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

After a year of serving take-out meals, Agape Mission has reopened its dining room for inside dining. This reopening is a tremendous blessing to its clients since they once again can eat in a restaurant like setting with a sense of dignity. For the past year, we have been able to get along with a skeleton crew to make the take-out meals. Now it is time for us to "reopen" our commitment to serving those individuals who struggle in their daily lives and volunteer to give the diners a warm welcome and fill their plates with delicious food. We need volunteers to work serving meals and help with clean-up on the fourth Thursday of each month. Specifically, we need three volunteers for the 12:45 to approximately 2:00 shift. If you are interested, please email Becky Liehr at jbliehr@gmail.com <mailto:jbliehr@gmail.com> or call her at 918-327-5987. The blessings abound in this ministry as you become the hands of Christ to those individuals who otherwise may not have a well-balanced meal that day. Their smiles and gratitude for this service will warm your heart. Please prayerfully consider joining the St. Luke's team in this wonderful ministry.



Easter Faith Forum Series

Resurrecting Wounds

Faith Forum 9:15 – 10:15 in Metcalf Hall

- Session Three: May 2nd Touching Wounds.
- Session Four: May 9th Surfacing Wounds.
- Session Five: May 16th Discovering Wounds.
- Session Six: May 23rd Communal Afterliving.

Flower Donations: The Altar Guild Team and Flower Fund Chairmen would like to give our sincere appreciation and thanks to all who made contributions for the gorgeous Easter Lilies that adorned St. Luke's, not only on Easter but the following Sunday. We also thank you for the additional money that allowed us to place the bowl of fresh spring flowers on the Chapel Altar. Hopefully, most of you saw these in person or were able to see the beautiful sanctuary on Facebook or your iPhones.

Now it's time to select a date that has special meaning for you to honor or remember loved ones on the remaining Sundays this spring. We always place fresh flowers on the High Altar except during Lent and Advent. (COVID did cancel flowers during the early pandemic when there were no services in the church). This is a great opportunity to make your remembrance known to God and also our Parish Family.

Please select a Sunday from now through the end of June, and notify either Jo Baughman via email at jybokla@aol.com or Cheryl Fregin via email at cherylfregin@yahoo.com; and then send a check to the office or place it in the offering basket, **noting** the exact wording you choose for the Sunday bulletin. The suggested amount is \$45 but we are happy with any extra that you might donate. If it's easier, just give it to Roseanne in person in the office at your convenience or drop your check in the north locked mailbox by the parking lot doors. Or simply mail to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 210 East Ninth, Bartlesville, OK 74003. Please don't forget to note Flower Fund on the bottom corner of your check.

Many thanks for keeping fresh flowers on our High Altar.

Cheryl and Jo Flower Fund Co-Chairmen.

Regular Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Roseanne is on vacation May 10 – 17. Jeff Birk will be filling in during her absence.

Please note that even during office hours, the doors are locked per COVID-19 protocol. If you need to come in, just ring the north entrance bell or call the office at 918-336-1212.

Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

<u>Thursday, May 13</u> 10:45 am – 1 pm: Fr. Nick Phares, Becky Liehr, Kris Bonner, Dolores McCreary, Kathy Zervas

12:45 pm – 2 pm: Jeanne & Peter Julstrom, Wendy Hall

Thursday, May 27

10:45 am – 1 pm: Jeff Birk, Darian Kedy, Becky Olsen, Dan Droege, Jo Baughman

12:45 pm - 2 p.m.: Steve Clark (two additional volunteers needed)



St. Luke's Prayer List

The prayer list can be found in the Sunday bulletin and on the St. Luke's website.

Call or email our office with prayer requests at 918-336-1212 or office@episcopalbartlesville.org.

Bereavement Team 1

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Sally Lindsey, Jeanne Julstrom.

Planning to attend the upcoming Sunday service?

If you have a standing reservation, there's no need to call. However, if you've not been attending regularly in-person – Reserve your spot by emailing to <u>office@episcopalbartlesville.org</u> or by calling 918-336-1212.

Alert on solicitations...

Be aware – No one from St. Luke's will request gift cards or other monetary support through email. If you receive such a message in your email, it is spam. All financial requests/special appeals at St. Luke's go through normal channels and any special requests will be made by phone or in person.

Birthdays and Anniversaries, May 5 - May 19

Birthdays

Max Mitchell, 5th

Keeli Droege, 8th

Jennifer McIver, 6th

Sigrid Williams, 12th

Sydney Beasley, 12th

Murphy Warring, 13th

Robert Matthews, 14th

Nancy Megee, 19th

Anniversaries

Walt & Cindy Gasior, 16th

If your or a loved one's name doesn't appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday or anniversary!





St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector 269-788-7063; <u>RevPhares@outlook.com</u>

Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist 918-397-4828 <u>dolomc37@gmail.com</u>

Roseanne McKee, Secretary; 918-336-1212; <u>office@episcopalbartlesville.org</u>

Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.; 918-697-8509; <u>keelidroege@gmail.com</u>

St. Luke's Episcopal Church 210 East 9th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

St. Luke's Vestry Members

- o Dan Droege, Sr. Warden <u>dbdcomm.2@gmail.com</u> 918-331-7936
- o Doug McIver, Jr. Warden dmciver@susandickcpa.com 785-342-4328
- Penny Williams <u>oklaborn@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Nancy Woods <u>Nancywoods120@gmail.com</u>
- Steve Van Aken <u>scvanaken@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Heather Boyle <u>heatherboyle@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Nancy Warring <u>newarring@cityofbartlesville.org</u>
- o Karl Franks <u>ktdfranks@gmail.com</u>
- Katherine Powell <u>kmpbmp@cableone.net</u>
- Karole Cozby <u>kscozby916@gmail.com</u>
- Chad Ellis w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com
- Nancy Megee <u>sc4me81@yahoo.com</u>

Connecting with St. Luke's

To learn various ways to connect at St. Luke's, visit our website at: http://episcopalbartlesville.org/



The Sixth Sunday of Easter May 9, 2021 St. Luke's Episcopal Church Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

BCP = Book of Common Prayer, red book H = The Hymnal 1982, blue book WLP = Wonder, Love and Praise, green book

Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

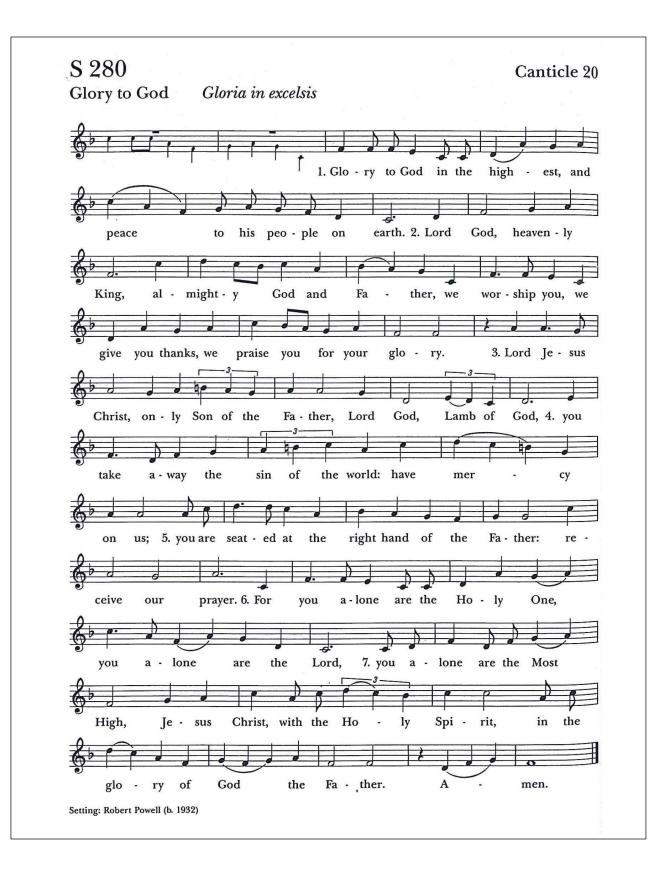
H 657

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen. People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*





The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

People And also with you. Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

People Thanks be to God.

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, * for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm * has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; * his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

BCP 225

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, * and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn * shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, * and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world * and the peoples with equity.

A Reading from the first Letter of John

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Hymn	"O Love of God, How Strong and True"	H-455
The Holy 17	Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.	John 15:9-

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord. People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

All standing

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation Fr. Nick Phares

he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.He has spoken through the Prophets.We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

We pray for your faithful people and our leaders, that your love may be the foundation of our common life and at the heart of all our ministries.

Teach us to abide in your love.

We pray for your world, filled with creatures, plant life, and grandeur beyond words.

Teach us to care for the earth with love.

We pray for all the peoples of the world and we honor them as you have called each by name.

Accompany us as we reach out our hands in love.

We pray for healing for those among us who are ailing, aching, or anxious. We pray especially for: Milton Enderlin, Mary Gillett, Linda Piper, Terry Piper, Leaona Dobbs, Connie Woods, Tracy Dobbs, Liz Green, Matt French, Shellie Greggs, Emily DeGraffenried, Joseph Louis, Lynetta Jackson, Lorrie Loy, Kyle Frohlic, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, Sydney & Ed Beasley, Rob Boyle, Marcia Zervas, Luke Karel, Kaye McGinty, Annie Harris, Tom & Jacque Martin, Allen Oliphant, Carolyn French, David King, Evelyn Tibbits, Jim Taylor, Bruce, Clara, Peggy, Joe, Sandra, Helen, Kristin, and Scott.

Teach us to respond to their needs with love.

We pray for those who are at the end of their earthly lives, for those who have recently entered into eternal life, especially Sally Canfield.

Remember them in you love, O Lord.

Celebrant

Let us pray for all the mothers among us today; for our own mothers, those living and those who have passed away; for the mothers who loved us and for those who fell short of loving us fully; for all who hope to be mothers some day and for those whose hope to have children has been frustrated; for all mothers who have lost children; for all women and men who have mothered others in any way—those who have been our substitute mothers and we who have done so for those in need; for the earth that bore us and provides our sustenance. We pray this all in the name of God, our great and loving Mother. Amen.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Fr. Nick Phares

The Holy Communion

Hymn	"As We Gather	WLP-763	
The Grea	t Thanksgiving	Eucharistic Prayer B	BCP 367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

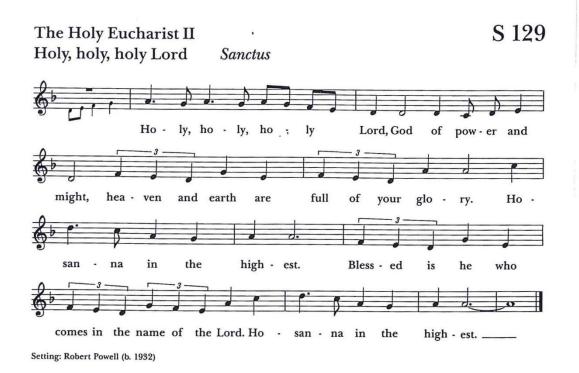
PeopleThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.CelebrantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_______ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

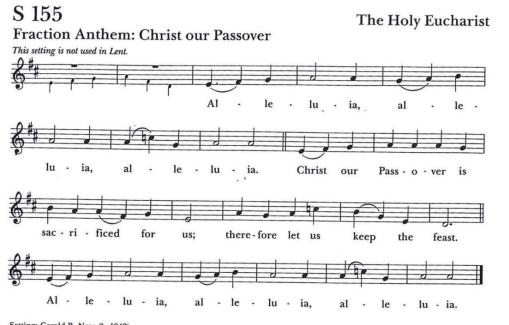
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said



Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

Invitation to Communion

BCP 365

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Communion

The Bread is given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn	"All Praise to Thee, For Though, O King Divine"	H-477
The Dismissal		BCP 366
	t us go forth into the world, oicing in the power of the Spirit.	
The People respond	Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.	

Celebrant: Father Nick Phares Organist: Dolores McCreary Usher: Brian Ferguson Layreader: Jim Liehr

Today's altar flowers are given: In Honor and Remembrance for all Mothers, Step-Mothers, Godmothers, Grandmothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, Aunts, and Nieces of the St. Luke's family.